

Revelation declares that whatsoever things were written aforetime, were written for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope ;" that "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved ;" and that all "may partake of the water of life freely."

The next subject for examination and remark is that of the evidence of the possession of "the spirit of Christ." This evidence is of a two-fold description—internal and external. The first can only be certainly known by the person who possesses it. The truth that the possession of this inestimable blessing may be obtained and enjoyed is plainly set forth in many passages of Scripture.—The following are express on the point:—"The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." "Who hath sealed us and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." That these words universally apply, throughout all ages and generations, is perfectly evident from the following, among other passages of Scripture:—by the Saviour Himself—"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God ;"—"This spake He of the Spirit which they that believe on Him should receive ; for the Holy Ghost was not yet given, because that Jesus was not yet glorified." Also, the text of this discourse ;—"If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his ;" with many other passages to the same effect, and for all time. The possession and operations of this gracious spirit, as a comforting, strengthening, and encouraging witness, are made manifest to the individual so richly endowed, by his conscious experience of its internal *effects* of love, joy and peace, faith, meekness, patience, and other gracious dispositions and affections, described in Scripture, as proofs of that possession. As one of the effects of the operations of the Divine Spirit in the real Christian, he is content with the lot in this life assigned to him by Divine Providence ; is patient in tribulation and all distressing circumstances, self-denying, mortifying the flesh with its affections and lusts, cherishing love to God and the Saviour ; to the Word of God, and His ordinances ; to His true people, of every class and denomination, and to all mankind. He is jea-